

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 099557
ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 099557

EXDIS, FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RH, OVIP (MONDALE, VICE PRESIDENT WALTER)

SUBJECT: VORSTER-MONDALE MEETING

1. YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO SEEK AN APPOINTMENT PRIOR TO
MIDDAY TUESDAY (WASHINGTON TIME) WITH FOREIGN MINISTER
MOGWE OR AN APPROPRIATELY HIGH-RANKING FONMIN OFFICIAL,
TO DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO MOGWE.

2. QUOTE
HIS EXCELLENCY
A.M. MOGWE
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
GABORONE

DEAR MR. MINISTER:
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WE HAVE RECEIVED NEWS OF THE OPERATION PRESIDENT KHAMA
UNDERWENT LAST WEEK. PLEASE ACCEPT MY BEST WISHES FOR HIS
RAPID RECOVERY. BOTSWANA'S LONGSTANDING CONCERN WITH THE
CAUSE OF JUSTICE FOR THE PEOPLES OF AFRICA COMPELS ME TO
WRITE THIS LETTER INFORMING YOU OF A FORTHCOMING MEETING
WHICH WILL DEAL WITH IMPORTANT MATTERS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

IN RESPONSE TO INDICATIONS FROM PRIME MINISTER VORSTER THAT HE IS INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING THE WIDE RANGE OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES WITH US, PRESIDENT CARTER HAS DECIDED TO ASK THE VICE PRESIDENT TO MEET WITH VORSTER DURING MR. MONDALE'S FORTHCOMING EUROPEAN TRIP. THEY WILL MEET IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA ON MAY 19. THE PRESIDENT WILL MAKE A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIS VISIT ON TUESDAY, MAY 3.

THE VICE PRESIDENT AND MR. VORSTER WILL ENGAGE IN AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND IDEAS, RATHER THAN IN SPECIFIC OR DETAILED NEGOTIATIONS. MR. MONDALE WILL EXPRESS THE COMMITMENT OF MY GOVERNMENT TO THE CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, AND, IN CONFORMITY WITH THIS, THE NECESSITY FOR SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

THE VICE PRESIDENT WILL MAKE CLEAR TO MR. VORSTER OUR SUPPORT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA AND THE PROGRESSIVE TRANSFORMATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY. HE WILL NOTE OUR SUPPORT FOR FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN'S CURRENT INITIATIVE TO RESUME SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT AND FOR CURRENT EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 385.

VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE WILL EMPHASIZE TO MR. VORSTER THAT WHILE WE VIEW THE ROLE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERN-
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MENT AS CRUCIAL IN THE PEACEFUL RESOLUTIONS OF THE NAMIBIAN AND RHODESIAN SITUATIONS, THE UNITED STATES CANNOT IGNORE THE PRESSING NEED FOR RAPID CHANGE WITHIN SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF. OUR PRINCIPLES DEMAND SUCH CHANGE. ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE THE COMPLEXITY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PROBLEM, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT A PROGRESSIVE TRANSFORMATION OF THAT SOCIETY IN THE DIRECTION OF FULL POLITICAL RIGHTS AND AN END TO APARTHEID BEGIN NOW.

I BELIEVE THAT THE MESSAGE THAT VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE WILL CONVEY TO PRIME MINISTER VORSTER WILL SUPPORT OUR JOINT EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE THE PEACEFUL EVOLUTION OF ALL OF SOUTHERN AFRICA TO AN AREA OF FREEDOM AND JUSTICE.

AT THE MAPUTO CONFERENCE, AMBASSADOR YOUNG WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU OR YOUR REPRESENTATIVES MORE DETAILS ON THE TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER VORSTER.

I WANTED YOU TO HAVE THE FULL BENEFIT OF OUR THINKING

AND I KNOW I CAN COUNT ON YOU TO RESPECT ITS SENSITIVITY.

SINCERELY, CYRUS VANCE. UNQTE.

3. FYI. SIMILAR LETTERS ARE BEING DELIVERED TO THE
FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE FOUR FRONTLINE STATES AND
NIGERIA. OTHER AFRICAN HEADS OF STATES, THE FOUR
LEADING ZIMBABWE NATIONALISTS, AND SWAPO PRESIDENT
NUJOMA WILL ALSO BE BRIEFED ON THE MONDALE-VORSTER
MEETING.
VANCE

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